

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 03001 181257Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSM-03 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /059 W
-----181308 093889 /46

R 181110Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1897
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 3001

AMCONSUL PORT SAID SENDS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDIP, EG, UR
SUBJECT: SOVIETS ADD VICE CONSUL TO STAFF OF PORT SAID CONSULATE

1. THE SOVIET CONSULATE IN PORT SAID HAS FURTHER EXPANDED ITS
ALREADY LARGE STAFF WITH THE ADDITION OF VICE CONSUL SERGE
Y. YAKOVLEV AND HIS WIFE.

2. YAKOVLEV, WHO SPEAKS NEARLY FLUENT AMERICAN ENGLISH AND
WHO IS QUITE KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT THE U.S.A., ARRIVED IN
PORT SAID AFTER A YEAR'S STAY IN MOSCOW FOLLOWIING SEVERAL
YEAR IN KHARTOUM. ALTHOUGH HE CLAIMS TO BE AN ARABIC
LANGUAGE OFFICER, HE SEEMS RELUCTANT TO SPEAK
THE LANGUAGE. HE WAS MARRIED ABOUT ONE YEAR AGO TO AN
ATTRACTIVE WOMAN, MINA BY NAME, OF ABOUT 30 YEARS. SHE
SPEAKS SOME ENGLISH AND NO ARABIC AND HAS A PENCHANT
FOR EXTREMELY LOW CUT GOWNS, WHICH SHE WEARS TO HER
ADVANTAGE. YAKOVLEV IS ABOUT 34 YEARS OLD, FIVE FEET
TEN INCHES TALL, AND HAS DARK, CLOSE-CROPPED HAIR. HIS
WEIGHT IS NEAR 170 POUNDS AND HE SEEMS TO PREFER
ENGLISH CUT SUITE AND SPORTS JACKETS.

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3. SINCE HIS ARRIVAL, YAKOVLEV HAS MADE A REAL EFFORT
TO BEFRIEND THE INDIAN CONSUL GENERAL, WHO
WOULD JUST AS SOON KEEP HIS DISTANCE WERE IT NOT FOR THE
FACT THAT HE IS DESPERATE FOR A TENNIS PARTNER. YAKOVLEV
SHOWED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN ME
INITIALLY, BUT MORE RECENTLY HAS CONCENTRATED HIS
ATTENTION ON THE INDIAN.

4. AS AN INTERESTING SIDE-LIGHT, MORALE AT THE SOVIET CONSULATE SEEMS QUITE LOW. THE SOVIETS,WHO SEEM TO BE SHUNNED BY EGYPTIANS, SEEM NOT TO HAVE A GREAT PERSONAL AFFINITY FOR ONE ANOTHER EITHER. LIVING CONDITIONS, NECESSARILY CRAMPED IN A THREE STORY VILLA OCCUPIED BY THE CONSUL, VICE CONSUL, SECRETARY, AND SEVERAL SUPPORT STAFF, SEEMS TO HAVE EXPOSED SOME RAW NERVES AND FOSTERED A SENSE OF CLAUSTROPHOBIA AMONG THE STAFF. CONSUL DENISSOV TOLD ME THAT HE WAS TRYING TO SHORTEN HIS TOUR TO ONE YEAR BUT DOUBTED THAT HE WOULD SUCCEED. VICE CONSUL YAKOVLEV, ON THE OTHER HAND, FINDS PORT SAID MUCH MORE PLEASANT THAN KHARTOUM, WHICH HE DESCRIBES AS "UNPLEASANT" FOR RUSSIANS. SIGNED SURBER.
EILTS

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 18-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
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